UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WÜRZBURG
Department of Translational Pediatrics

The Department of Translational Pediatrics at the Children's Hospital, led by Frau Prof. Dr. Dorothee Viemann, is offering the position of a

PhD Position (m/f/d)

The Department of Translational Pediatrics is chair of the Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg (JMU), one of the oldest universities in Germany with a strong focus on human life sciences. We belong to and are located at the University Hospital of Würzburg (UKW) that harbors 34 specialized clinics, departments and institutes enabling interdisciplinary patient care and research at the highest level. It is the Medical Faculty's mission to create a vivid and favorable research environment for Clinical Research and Medical Translation. The Department of Translational Pediatrics is also part of the ZINF Research Center for Infectious Diseases and commits itself to the mission of translational research in tight collaboration with the Children's Hospital and the Department for Obstetrics and Gynecology. In concert, they have created a Pediatric Research Unit that operates local, national and international networks of active collaborations with scientists across the world.

Our research focuses particularly on the development of the immune system after birth. We are interested in identifying endogenous and environmental factors, which either promote or impede the postnatal processes of immune adaptation. The superior goal is to exploit this knowledge to develop age-specific strategies to combat infectious diseases and redirect aberrant postnatal immune development that predisposes lifelong to immune-mediated diseases.

Project description:

The applicant will work on a DFG-funded project in the frame of the new collaborative research group TRR359 PILOT ("Perinatal development of Immune Cell Topology" https://www.perinatal-immunity.de/en). For our project (PILOT A03) we are recruiting a dedicated and highly motivated PhD candidate who will investigate how the transition of human respiratory immunity from intrauterine to extrauterine life is regulated. To this end, the candidate will employ well established 3D primary human airway epithelial cell models and different kind of cutting-edge omics and imaging technologies for follow-up studies on airway epithelial cell composition and gene expression to identify potential factors priming pulmonary immunity after birth. Beside contributing to his/her individual project, the successful candidate will also become member of the structures PhD program of TRR359, called Co-PILOT (https://www.perinatal-immunity.de/en/doctoral-training). You will be able to register for a Ph.D., Dr.rer.nat., Dr.rer.biol.hum. or Dr.med. degree.

Requirements:

For this position, we are looking for a highly motivated, creative and enthusiastic candidate, who wants to work in an international and an interdisciplinary team:

- Degree in medicine, veterinary medicine, life science, pharmacy, ecompassing a minimum of 240 ECTS (in most cases this corresponds to 8 semesters)
- Desirably a theoretical and practical background in cellular and molecular immunology with experience in cell culture techniques
- Excellent communication skills and proficiency in German or English

Prior experience in the following scientific fields are of advantage:

- Experience in Immunology
- Knowledge of high-throughput sequencing methods and bioinformatics analyses

Beyond that, we expect the successful candidate to bring along:

- Enthusiasm for science and openness to new technologies
- Ability to work independently and good team spirit

Our offer:

We provide an international, interdisciplinary, exciting and stimulating scientific environment at the Research Center for Infectious Diseases of the University of Würzburg (ZINF) and the University Hospital Campus Würzburg with strong connections to the WüSI (Max-Planck Würzburg Institute of Systems Immunology), the HIRI (Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research), and the Biocenter of the University of Würzburg. Specifically, we offer

- Well-funded project at the leading edge of early-life immunology
- Well-structured PhD program either at the graduate school for life sciences at the university of Würzburg in collaboration with Co-PILOT
- Excellent scientific infrastructure and state-of-the-art methodologies
- Access to cutting-edge technologies
- Great networking opportunities with our collaborators in Germany and abroad
- A welcoming and enthusiastic team
- Active participation in international conferences

The University Hospital of Würzburg strives for professional equality between women and men. Severely disabled applicants will be favored if they are equally qualified.

Starting date: as soon as possible. Initial contract 1 year, extension to 3 years possible
Salary: E13 (65%), TV-öD

Please send your application by referencing to the job offer containing CV, motivation letter, certificates, and at least two references to:

University Hospital of Würzburg, Department of Translational Pediatrics, Prof. Dr. Dorothee Viemann, ZEMM, Zinklesweg 10, 97078 Würzburg, Germany or by e-mail: Viemann_D@ukw.de

For further information related to the position, please contact Prof. Dr. Dorothee Viemann, Head of Translational Pediatrics, Telephone: +49 931 201 45848 or by e-mail: Viemann_D@ukw.de